In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An engine ~~(400)~~ for use with a load, said engine comprising:

a compressor ~~(428)~~ adapted to receive power and, upon receiving power, to: periodically define a chamber; fill the chamber with ambient air; and carry out a pressurization process wherein the chamber volume is decreased to produce pressurized air,

a ~~radiator (414)~~ reservoir adapted to receive pressurized air from the compressor ~~(428) and to cool pressurized air so received~~,

~~combuster means (426)~~ a combuster for receiving fuel and combusting ~~same~~ said fuel in a combustion process with the pressurized air to produce primary exhaust products,

a positive displacement air motor ~~(408)~~ adapted to be driven by the primary exhaust products to produce power and secondary exhaust products,

a positive displacement gas expander ~~(410)~~ for receiving the secondary exhaust products and expanding ~~same~~ said secondary exhaust products substantially adiabatically to produce tertiary exhaust products and power, and

power transfer means ~~(314)~~ for directing power produced by the air motor ~~(408)~~ and the gas expander ~~(410)~~ in use to drive the compressor ~~(428)~~ and the load,

wherein:

the combuster ~~means (426)~~ is adapted to receive varying amounts of fuel, thereby to cause the power transfer means ~~(314)~~ to drive the load with varying amounts of power in use; and the compressor ~~(428)~~ is adapted to, during the pressurization process, release air from the chamber for said combustion in a manner such that the pressure in the chamber during the pressurization process and the pressure of the primary exhaust products driving the air motor ~~(408)~~ is at a substantially constant level at steady state conditions, said level adjusting spontaneously to the load being driven by the power.

2. (Currently amended) An engine [[(400)]] according to claim 1, wherein the compressor [[(428)]] is a rotary compressor.

3. (Currently amended) An engine ~~(400)~~ according to claim 1, wherein the combuster ~~means (426) comprises~~ is a tubular combuster.

4. (Currently amended) An engine [[(400)]] according to claim 1, wherein the air motor [[(408)]] is a rotary air motor.

5. (Currently amended) An engine [[(400)]] according to claim 1, wherein the gas expander [[(410)]] is a rotary gas expander.

6. (Currently amended) An engine [[(400)]] according to claim 1, wherein the power transfer means [[(314)]] comprises a shaft operatively coupled to each of the compressor [[(428)]], the air motor [[(408)]] and the gas expander [[(410)]].

7. (Currently amended) An engine ~~(400)~~ according to claim 1, ~~further comprising a reservoir adapted to receive pressurized air from the compressor (428) and~~ wherein the combuster ~~means (426)~~ receives air for said combustion from the reservoir.

8. (Currently amended) An engine ~~(400)~~ according to claim 1, wherein the ~~radiator (414)~~ reservoir also serves as a ~~reservoir~~ radiator ~~adapted to receive pressurized air from the compressor (428) and wherein the combuster means (426) receives air for said combustion from the radiator (414)~~.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently amended) An engine [[(400)]] according to claim 1, wherein the expansion ratio defined by the expander [[(410)]] is larger than the compression ratio defined by the compressor [[(428)]].

11. (Currently amended) An internal combustion engine ~~(400)~~ for use with a load, said engine ~~(400)~~ comprising: a rotary compressor ~~(428)~~ adapted to receive power and, upon receiving power, to: periodically define a chamber; fill the chamber with ambient air; and carry out a pressurization process wherein the chamber volume is decreased to produce pressurized air, a radiator ~~(414)~~ coupled to the compressor ~~(428)~~ to receive the pressurized air and adapted to cool said pressurized air and to function as a reservoir therefor, a first backflow preventer ~~(416)~~ and a second backflow preventer ~~(417)~~, each coupled to the radiator ~~(414)~~ to permit unidirectional flow therefrom; a pressure tank ~~(418)~~ coupled to the first backflow preventer ~~(416)~~ to receive pressurized air from the radiator ~~(414)~~; a valve ~~(420)~~ coupled to the pressure tank ~~(418)~~ to permit the selective release of pressurized air from the pressure tank ~~(418)~~; a tubular combuster ~~(426)~~ coupled to the valve ~~(420)~~ and to the second backflow preventer ~~(417)~~ to receive pressurized air from the radiator ~~(414)~~ and pressurized air selectively released from the pressure tank ~~(418)~~ and adapted to receive fuel and combust same in a combustion process with ~~is~~ the pressurized air so received to produce primary exhaust products, a

positive displacement rotary air motor ~~(408)~~ coupled to the combuster ~~(426)~~ so as to be driven by the primary exhaust products to produce power and secondary exhaust products, a positive displacement rotary gas expander ~~(410)~~ coupled to the air motor ~~(408)~~ for receiving the secondary exhaust products and expanding same substantially adiabatically to produce tertiary exhaust products and power, and a shaft ~~(314)~~ operatively coupled to each of the compressor ~~(428)~~, the air motor ~~(408)~~ and the gas expander ~~(410)~~ for directing power produced by the air motor ~~(408)~~ and the gas expander ~~(410)~~ in use to drive the compressor ~~(428)~~ and the load, wherein: the combuster means ~~(426)~~ is adapted to receive varying amounts of fuel, thereby to cause the shaft ~~(314)~~ to drive the load with varying amounts of power in use; and the compressor ~~(428)~~ is adapted to, during the pressurization process, release air from the chamber for said combustion in a manner such that the maximum pressure in the chamber during the pressurization process and the pressure of the primary exhaust products driving the air motor ~~(408)~~ is substantially constant at steady state conditions, said constant being a function of the power driving the load.

12. (Currently amended) An engine ~~(400)~~ according to claim ~~1~~ 11, wherein the expansion ratio defined by the expander ~~(410)~~ is larger than the compression ratio defined by the compressor ~~(428)~~.

13. (Currently amended) An engine ~~(400)~~ according to claim 1, wherein the compressor ~~(428)~~ is a three stage compressor.